

Minutes of the Lafayette County Libraries Planning Committee Meeting

February 19, 2014

Benton Public Library

48 W. Main St. (Hwy. 11)

Benton, WI 53803

Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda/Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Bob Boyle, Lafayette County Board (after refreshments were made available).

Library Directors present: Carol McDaniel, Argyle; Carol Stoudt, Shullsburg; Candi Fitzsimons, Darlington; and Janet Johnson, Benton. Also present: Mary Knellwolf, UW-Extension, and Marion Howard, Lafayette County Historical Society (Darlington). Absent: Gretchen Dieterich, Blanchardville; Amber Majerus, Cuba City; Sylvia Henry, Belmont; and Krista Ross, SWLS Director.

Janet J. confirmed that the meeting was properly posted in five public places in Benton. Motion made by Carol S. and seconded by Carol M. to approve the agenda. Motion passed. Motion made by Marion H. and seconded by Candi F. to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2013, meeting. Motion passed.

Public Input

None

Old Business

Money Smart Week was revisited with the reminder that we will not be planning for this year (due to attendance problems last year) but looking at possibilities for 2015. Carol M. mentioned her 2013 program worked well at the school (captive audience!); Carol S. said scheduling programs at the Shullsburg school has been challenging because of their six-day schedule frame. Senior meal sites and factories/businesses were suggested as possible locations for future programs. Tax help, either from a local accountant or VITA, might be a good focus for next year (and Carol S. is having an accountant do it this year). Other program ideas for next year: scams, credit card usage, identity theft, "rent smart," and credit ratings. Carol M. suggested using a survey to get input from patrons on which topics would be of interest; Carol S. suggested making it uniform for all the libraries in the county. (As an aside, we also discussed having programs on health care and drug use issues, such as the increase in heroine, which could be sponsored by HCE, said Mary K.)

New Business

Budgets—Nothing reported. Krista R. will be at the next meeting.

County Board Meeting Reports

December—Bob B. reported that the option for Medicaid funding for health care (which might have offset some of the uncompensated care--\$358,000 last year) failed to pass in Lafayette and Grant, but Iowa and 18 other counties have passed it so far.

February—Candi F. reported that libraries were not mentioned and it was a fairly short meeting. The year-end report included a surplus, but bills are still coming in.

Upcoming Meetings:

- March 18—Carol S.
- April 15—Candi F.
- May 20—Bob B.

Meetings start at 7 p.m. at Darlington Courthouse; call ahead to confirm dates.

Library Updates

Carol S. in Shullsburg—Started in January the program *1000 Books Before Kindergarten*, which is ongoing. Currently 24 kids are registered; Lions Club donated 36 bags (the minimum) to start; and Carol put together the folders, including activities calendar and reading log. Carol is planning to give puppets for the 500 goal and new books for 1000. Information is available on the website at

<http://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org>.

Story time starts up in March.

They are looking to hire a temporary, part-time, youth librarian to start in April and run the summer library program.

Carol M. in Argyle—Got a Libra grant (again!) of \$600, approximately 40 books, as well as a \$5000 grant (more than requested!) from the Argyle Community Fund for laptops, a projector and screen, and a couple of Kindles. She will also be having a person come in and use all this new equipment to teach patrons how to use the databases offered through SWLS.

Candi F. in Darlington—Implemented new programs: Lego Club (monthly); Art Groupies, which is based on books (also monthly), and Knitting Club (Wednesdays).

Redoing younger children's books section using bookstore model with nine main categories and fiction grouped with non-fiction in appropriate subcategories, then alphabetized by title. Big sale of weeded books at end of April!

Janet J. in Benton—Getting ready to move to Ames, Iowa, after school gets out, which includes looking for a new director (15-20 hours per week). Meanwhile, our Tuesday librarian, Susan Ward, is working on the SLP, and we will be kicking it off with Mad Science of Iowa on June 10.

Mary K at UW-Extension—Trying to fill 4-H position (going through Madison), recently reposted as Bachelor's degree required and Master's preferred, which might open it up a bit and allow for more interested local people (who are close to having Master's) to apply.

Report from SWLS

None

Future Agenda Topics

Money Smart Week

2014 Summer Library Programs—Email program info to all others in our group (presenters, dates, cost, etc.) to facilitate coordinating programs.

County Board Meetings

Note: Marion informed us of the need for more members from outside Darlington in the historical society, which is a county group, not just Darlington. (Carol M. already has someone in mind!)

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 9:00 a.m. at the Johnson Public Library in Darlington.

Adjournment

Motion by Candi F. and seconded by Janet J. to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Johnson.